



## LABORATORY BULLETIN

**Date:** January 11, 2005

**To:** Regional Lab Directors  
 Regional Lab Managers  
 Regional Communicable Disease Consultants  
 Regional Environmental Health Directors/Managers  
 Medical Officers of Health  
 for Alberta, Northwest Territories, Yukon, Nunavut  
 University of Alberta Hospital Nursing Stations and Physicians

**PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE**

**From:** Dr. Jutta Preiksaitis, Medical Director, ProvLab  
 Dr. Robert Rennie, Divisional Director, Capital Health Medical Microbiology  
 Laboratory

**Re: Guide to Services Update**

The Provincial Laboratory for Public Health (Microbiology) [ProvLab] and the Capital Health Medical Microbiology Laboratory (University of Alberta Hospital site) are pleased to announce that a new edition of the Guide to Services is now available on the ProvLab website at [www.provlab.ab.ca](http://www.provlab.ab.ca) (behind the Partners tab).

The Guide to Services is a comprehensive reference resource for our partners in acute and community health care. This version reflects current information on appropriate sampling, use of collection devices, and transport of microbiology laboratory specimens collected to support:

- outbreak investigation and public health programs throughout the province
- acute care microbiology at the University of Alberta Hospitals

Every effort has been made to provide an all-inclusive list of disease processes and associated specimen collection guidelines so that our laboratory investigations are complete and timely for optimal patient care and population health. Contact information for inquiries regarding laboratory services is also included in the Guide.

Due to document control issues, our laboratory has elected to eliminate the distribution of hard copies of the Guide. **Please destroy all former versions of this document.** The online Adobe Acrobat file will be updated on a regular basis to ensure that our clients have access to the most current information available. In future, data linkages and appendices will be incorporated to improve its utility.

Our laboratory is committed to excellence in service, and we welcome your comments and suggestions for improvement. Please feel free to address any inquiries or concerns to our Client Services Manager, either by email at [GuideToServices@provlab.ab.ca](mailto:GuideToServices@provlab.ab.ca) or by phone at 1-780-407-8962.